

INTERNATIONAL SCIENTIFIC CONFERENCE

THE MILLENNIUM OF LITHUANIA AND LOCAL HISTORY

July 3, 2009

Lithuanian Academy of Sciences Aula Magna
Gedimino pr. 3, Vilnius

Lithuanian Academy of Sciences: Division of Humanities and Social Sciences
Vilnius Pedagogical University
Versmė Public Publishing House



During the solemn celebration of the Millennium of Lithuania event – The International Scientific Conference "The Millennium of Lithuania and Local History" – 25 scholars from Lithuania, Poland, Latvia, Belarus, Ukraine, and Russia discussed the first reference to the name of Lithuania thousand years ago within its national and European, historical and modern contexts, as well as sharing the

insights about the thousand-year long historical achievements and losses, analyzing the theoretical, and historiographical and investigative problems in the field of local researches in Lithuania and neighbouring countries, national, regional and local history relations, reviewing the synthesis of Lithuania's local history and being presented with the real model of the publishing of local researches – the 15-year-long national civic project – a 100-volume series of local monographs Lithuanian Rural Districts (*Lietuvos Valsčiai*). (see: the programme of the International Scientific Conference THE MILLENNIUM OF LITHUANIA AND LOCAL HISTORY)

At the introduction of The International Scientific Conference, in the introductory speeches, there have been glorified the Millennium of Lithuania. The commemoration of the Millennium of Lithuania is maturity of traditions and researches. For instance, the Millennium of Hungary is the Millennium monuments of symbols, such as: wealth, knowledge, and glorious history. In comparison with Hungary, the Millennium of Lithuania spreads ideas of the Palace of the Lithuanian Grand Dukes National Museum as a historical monument; the Millennium of Lithuania is also for researches of the spring of the land (cf. theory of Rome origin) so as to give the original meaning to historic and impressive buildings, famous and national monuments, and ancient as well as national symbols into the culture of Lithuania. Here, aspects of social sciences and the humanities are valuable.

Here are six summaries of the presentations of The International Scientific Conference The International Scientific Conference THE MILLENNIUM OF LITHUANIA AND LOCAL HISTORY.

Dr. Nataliya Zinevych (Kyiv, Ukraine), Ukrainian Academy of Sciences, M. S. Hrushevsky Institute of Archaeography and Source Studies, in the presentation PROBLEMS OF LOCAL AND REGIONAL STUDIES IN CENTRAL AND EASTERN EUROPE mentioned that it is necessary that professionalism of historians is well-grounded by a wide erudition, developed intuition, good methodological instrumentation, initially, while working with resources. Dr. Nataliya Zinevych also mentioned that it is possible to go from the global history and to come to the total history in all its social outlines. After The International Scientific Conference, the doctor of sciences thanked all the organizers for the remarkable organization of the conference and for the cordial welcome.

Dr. Inna Sorkina (Grodno, Belarus), Yanka Kupala State University in Grodno, in the presentation LOCAL HISTORY STUDIES IN BELARUS (1990-2008) reviewed that more and more of the scientific researches on the local history are published and this has been forming tendency of the

regional researches. According to Dr. Inna Sorkina, from how the community of Belarus will interpret its rich history, political as well as cultural future will depend on this. After The International Scientific Conference, the scholar expressed her deep gratitude for the invitation to participate in such an astonishing conference.

Dr. Habil, professional historian, Mateusz Wyżga (Cracow, Poland), Cracow Pedagogical University, in the presentation LOCAL AND REGIONAL HISTORIOGRAPHY IN POLAND relied on the scientist Karolkis Buczekas (1902-1983), who was the first to give the meaning of a historical region, and he emphasized that it is necessary to separate the local history from the regional history. Also, the professional historian mentioned that Polish started the regional and the local historiography in the 19 century, the most eminent scientists are Ksawery Liske, Franciszek Bujak, Jan Rutkowski, and others. After The International Scientific Conference, the doctor of sciences sincerely thanked for an opportunity to give a presentation; also praised the idea of the monographs of "*Versmė*" and Petras Jonušas, *Versmė* Publishing House, Lithuania, for his speech.

Dr. Marite Jakovleva (Riga, Latvia), the University of Latvia the Institute of the History of Latvia, in the presentation LOCAL HISTORY STUDIES IN LATVIA: CASE STUDIES mentioned that the important aspect of the local researches is that there are the local objects and the trans-local communities and scientists may not so simply distinguish them between one or other country, or from the historical region, and so on. After The International Scientific Conference, the doctor of sciences was happy that she was invited and she could participate at the conference, also go sightseeing as well as seeing Vilnius in the new Millennium.

Dr. Habil. Aleksandr Sedunov (Pskov, Russia), Pskov State Pedagogical University, in the presentation NORTHEAST RUSSIA REGION WITHIN THE CONTEXT OF LOCAL HISTORY emphasized that the local historiography is the tendency of the History science, which analyzes territorial changes, events, and the process of one or other local community. Also, in the majority of works of Russia, researches draw their attention to the local history as it is believed to solve complex issues of the macro level in the country, for instance, religion, ethnic, national, and social. Furthermore, according to Dr. Habil. Aleksandr Sedunov, nowadays the methodology of the local history is being defined more precisely; consequently, some researches claim that there exists "indetermination of the methodological bases of the regional history". After The International Scientific Conference, the doctor of sciences wrote that he liked the level of the presentations and their thematic very much.

Dr. Volodymyr Polishchuk (Kyiv, Ukraine), Ukrainian Academy of Sciences, M.S. Hrushevsky Institute of Archaeography and Source Studies, in the presentation LOCAL STUDIES IN UKRAINE: PROJECTS AND METHODOLOGY mentioned that in the context of the historical local lore studies and in the context of the regional development, Ukraine disposes of the unique experience – attempt between 1967-1973 to unite group of authors of almost 100 thousands of scholars and enthusiasts so as to prepare series of the 26 volumes about the history of Ukraine towns and villages. Nevertheless this, according to doctor Dr. Volodymyr Polishchuk, nowadays it is necessary to develop new standpoints of the History science. Ultimately, according to the doctor's of sciences presentation, in the practice of the historiographical practice, the local research is seen as the synthesis of macro and micro history. Having arrived in Kiev, the doctor of sciences wrote that he is writing with a fascination with The International Scientific Conference which has been more than the conference for so many astonishing events and the most important event – we have participated in the Millennium of Lithuania with so many surprising people.

Other presentations have also been not only undoubtedly impressive, but also scientifically valuable.

Consequently, The International Scientific Conference THE MILLENNIUM OF LITHUANIA AND LOCAL HISTORY has been truly valuable for distinguished scholars presentations and the solemn celebration of the Millennium of Lithuania event with the emphasis on the national civic project – volumes of series of local monographs Lithuanian Rural Districts (*Lietuvos Valsčiai*).

English writer Gintaras Kavarskas, Master student, Vilnius University

Look at the photographs of The International Scientific Conference at

<http://www.versme.lt/konferencija090703.htm>

Congratulations on The International Scientific Conference THE MILLENNIUM OF LITHUANIA AND LOCAL HISTORY from the prime minister Andrius Kubilius, Lithuania Republic, is here:

<http://www.versme.lt/Konf/sveikinimas.jpg>

Testimonials of the scholars after The International Scientific Conference are listed here:

<http://www.versme.lt/Konf/Atsiliepimai.pdf>

The programme of the The International Scientific Conference, THE MILLENNIUM OF

LITHUANIA AND LOCAL HISTORY, is listed here:

http://www.lietuvai1000.lt/nuorodos_doc/konferencija.pdf

<http://www.llt.lt/konferencija.pdf>

http://www.llt.lt/konferencija_ru.pdf

<http://www.llt.lt/confer.pdf>

<http://www.llt.lt>

The invitation to the International Scientific Conference, THE MILLENNIUM OF LITHUANIA AND LOCAL HISTORY, is here:

<http://www.llt.lt/kvietimas.pdf>